

CONA Newsletter

The Council of Neighborhood Associations of South Pinellas County

May 2013

CONA Newsletter Deadlines - Copy Due-25th of each month, Mailing-2nd Wednesday of month, In Hand-2nd Friday of month

Where Do We Stand?

What should CONA do? That is the question we shall be asking this month? Earlier this year we had our annual CONA Goals retreat. A sampling of neighborhoods sent representatives and we cross pollinated on diverse subjects from Snipe Signs to Historic Preservation, from Slumlords, drug houses and foreclosures that are devastating our communities to laws and policies that disproportionately damage the equality of life chances for people living in neighborhoods of color.

The way CONA works is simple. People volunteer their time and resources and work together on the projects that impact them and their community. All communities don't have the same issues. For some, crime is low and they want to keep it that way. Some are really focused on improving property values. Some just want to give their children a fair chance to make it. CONA represents them all: Strength in Numbers. This month we will be circulating surveys to find out where we stand together. Answer the call ...

I run into a lot of Monday morning armchair quarterbacks. People that sit on the sidelines and say CONA should be doing this and CONA should be doing that and because they are not, that is why I'm not involved. I'm calling bullshit on that. We need to put pettiness and laziness aside and get to work. The survey is not only going to ask: What is wrong? How can we fix it? It is also going to ask: What are you willing to do to help? Answer the call ...



Here is what CONA is going to do this year. Whatever you are willing to work together on to get done. Whether that means you donating cash, you helping with clean-ups, public records research, drug marches, putting door hangers out to get people to come to meetings or simply calling elected officials on some cause you could be working on from the comfort of your own home. This year is up to you, I look forward to being in the trenches with you.

Kurt Donley, President CONA

P.S. Whether you are a member or not, please sign up to take part in our new Public Forum - www.conaforums.org

CONA Board Meeting Wednesday, May 15, 2013

The SUNSHINE CENTER, 330 5th St. N.
Doors open at 6:30 pm; meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Agenda Items:

General Business – Committee Updates
New Business – Neighborhood Sharing
Presentations – PSTA and Shop Local

June 19 – Next Regular CONA Meeting
July 11-13 FL Neighborhoods Conference
2013 CONA Membership – Don't delay – Join today!

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We welcome articles, items of interest and meeting reminders. All submissions to the CONA Newsletter may be edited for clarity, taste and length.



SPPD Tip: Internet Fraud

SPPD Tip: Internet Fraud

Criminals are recognizing the vast potential of cyberspace. Many of the same scams or frauds that for years have been conducted by mail or phone can now be found on the Internet. The following are examples of the most frequent types of Internet fraud.

• Internet and Online Services

Free Internet access was promised with the purchase of software that was never provided. Consumers paid for a password to access pictures but never received it. Or people downloaded a viewer to see pictures and were hit with undisclosed international telephone charges. A breeder paid to place ads on a Web site for dogs she raises, never got the ads, and the company is now out of business.

• General Merchandise

Sales via unsolicited e-mails, newsgroup postings, chat room discussions, Web sites, online classified advertisements for everything from T-shirts to toys, calendars to collectibles: the merchandise was not delivered, arrived in damaged condition, was defective or was misrepresented. I wouldn't buy from a company online whose good reputation I didn't know from other sources of information.

• Auctions

Offers through Internet auction Web sites for antiques, new and used computer equipment, videos, games, etc.: the sellers never delivered the items or misrepresented their value. "Shills" were used to drive up bids. Sellers tried to raise prices after the highest bids were made.

• Pyramids and Multilevel Marketing

Pyramid schemes are similar to multi-level marketing. Pyramid schemes provide financial incentives to recruit new distributors. They are generally prohibited because it is a mathematical certainty that the pyramid will collapse when no new distributors can be recruited. When that happens, most people lose their money.

• Work-at-Home Schemes

In the old "envelope stuffing" schemes, consumers are told they will be paid for addressing envelopes, but they actually receive instructions on how to sell others information on how they can make money stuffing envelopes. There are false promises of working as an answering service or approving credit card applications. Computer-related work-at-home scams may require the purchase of equipment or software to produce things like computer graphics that will supposedly be bought by companies.

• Prizes and Sweepstakes

Win a free trip with payment of a registration fee, but you are required to buy a companion ticket at full price. The prize in an online contest turns out to be a discount price on a satellite service package. The consumer supposedly wins cash but is asked for his or her bank account number.

• Credit Card Offers

Credit cards are offered on Web sites and via unsolicited e-mail despite bad credit, if the consumer pays an advance fee. Fees of as much as \$100 are paid, but the credit cards are never received.

• Magazine Subscriptions

Magazines are never received from companies falsely representing themselves as subscription services for well-known magazine publishers.

• The Hijack

The "Hijack" is a relatively new form of Internet-related fraud. Consumers are prompted to download a purported "viewer program" to see computer images for free. Once downloaded, the consumer's computer is "hijacked" by the viewer program which turns off the consumer's modem speakers, disconnects the computer from the local Internet provider, dials an international number and connects the consumer to a remote site. The expensive international costs are charged to the consumer's telephone bill until the telephone is turned off.

Tips for Avoiding Internet Fraud

• **Do business with those you know and trust.** Be sure you know who the company or person is and where it is physically located. Businesses operating in cyberspace may be in another part of the country or in another part of the world. Resolving problems with someone unfamiliar can be more complicated in long-distance or cross-border transactions.

• **Understand the offer.** Look carefully at the information about the products or services offered, and ask for more information, if needed. A legitimate business will be glad to provide it; a fraudulent telemarketer won't. Be sure you know what is being sold, the total price, the delivery date, the return and cancellation policy, and the terms of any guarantee. The federal telephone and mail order rule, which also covers orders by computer, requires goods or services to be delivered by the promised time or, if none was stated, within thirty days. Print out the information so that you have documentation.

R 4 U: Resources for You

Neighborhood News Calendars

Use our local newspapers and websites to promote your meetings and events.

- Tampa Bay Times (formerly St Pete Times): E-mail your information to neighborhoodcal@gmail.com Deadline is 5 PM Friday for the next Wednesday.
- St Pete Patch: E-mail your information to William Mansell at www.stpete.patch.com
- City of St Petersburg: E-mail your information to Beth Herendeen at www.stpete.org

Neighborhood Concerns – CONA can help.

Questions? Need help? Don't understand something? Can't find the information you need? Please contact any CONA officer with your problem and you will be put in touch with a mentor who can help your association find a solution.

Garage Sale Leftovers?

Donate your unsold "treasures" at the end of your garage sale to the charity of your choice. Many charities will arrange pickup so you do not have to take anything to a drop off center. This is a win-win-win for everyone. Your home is now clean. The charity of your choice has newly used "treasures" to sell and the people the charity supports are getting a helping hand.

CONA's Citizen of the Month

Please send us your suggestions of leaders in your neighborhood who deserve special recognition for their contribution, time, and ideas to your neighborhood association. Not only is recognizing our super volunteers something we can never do enough of, it also brings new people into CONA and helps us continue to build our leadership base. So, please send in those names of the leaders who shine in your neighborhood association!

Frequently Called Numbers

Mayor's Action Line	893-7111
SPPD (non-emergency)	893-7780
FL Abuse Hotline	800-962-2873

Animal Control	582-2600
City Council	893-7117
Codes Compliance	893-7373
Community Services	892-5141
County Commission	464-3377
Sanitation	893-7334

CONA Newsletter ad rates – (Monthly Rates)

\$15	1/8 Page–Business Card Size
\$30	1/4 Page
\$100	Full Page
\$50	1/2 Page
Insert (Prepared by Advertiser) \$ 50.00	
Insert - Work-up	Time & Material
Pre-Pay for 6-9 Months-Get 1 Month Free	

SPPD Tip: Internet Fraud continued from previous page

- **Check out the company's or individual's track record.** Ask your state or local consumer protection agency if the business has to be licensed or registered, and check to see if it is. Call to check for complaint records with consumer agencies and the Better Business Bureau in your area. But keep in mind that fraud artists can appear and disappear quickly, especially in cyberspace, so lack of a complaint record is no guarantee of legitimacy.
- **Never give your bank account numbers, credit card numbers or other personal information** to anyone you don't know or haven't checked out. And don't provide information that isn't necessary to make a purchase. If you have a choice between using your credit card and mailing cash, check, or money order, the use of a credit card is recommended. You can always dispute fraudulent credit card charges, but you can't get cash back.
- **Take your time.** While there may be time limits for special offers, high-pressure sales tactics are often danger signs

of fraud.

- **Don't judge reliability by how nice or flashy a web site may seem.** Anyone can create, register, and promote a web site; it's relatively easy and inexpensive. And just like any other forms of advertising, you can't assume that someone has screened and approved it.
- **Know that people in cyberspace may not always be what they seem.** Someone who is sharing a "friendly" tip about a moneymaking scheme or great bargain in a chat room or on a bulletin board may have an ulterior motive: to make money. Sometimes friendly people are crooks!
- **Don't download programs to see pictures, hear music, or get other features from web sites you're not familiar with.** You could unwittingly download a virus that wipes out your computer files or even hijacks your Internet service, reconnecting you to the Net through an international phone number, resulting in enormous phone charges

CONA 101 – Help! My meetings have a life of their own

Are your association meetings productive? Are you able to address all the issues on your agenda and still have time for neighbors to get to know each other?

Just like location, location, location is so very important in real estate, planning, planning, and more planning is very important for effective meetings. Take these essential things to each of your meetings. A sense of humor, flexibility, your printed Agenda, a fallback Agenda (in case things go awry . . . as they often do), a clock/timer and Roberts Rules of Order or a good Parliamentarian.

Pick your location to match your type of meeting. For Business meetings – pick a location with chairs (few or no tables). For Social meetings – pick a location with round tables, chairs, room to move around during the meeting. For Entertainment meetings – pick whatever is appropriate for the type of entertainment.

Have clear start and stop times. This takes a few meetings to instill, but if you always start on time, members will try to be there. No one likes coming in late to a meeting in progress. Close the doors to your meeting room at the start of the meeting. Start with the Pledge of Allegiance and possibly a prayer. It sets the tone, quiets everyone down and gets everyone's attention. Turn off all cell phones. Confiscate those that ring and ransom them back. Make it a game and have some fun.

Have a special sign-in/registration and refreshment time before the meeting, typically 30 minutes. Give attendees time to sign in, socialize, have refreshments and then sit down for the meeting. Also have a scheduled social time after the meeting to meet and talk informally with speaker and other members. Start turning out the lights – that's a great sign that people must exit the building as it is closing down now.

An **Agenda** is your best roadmap to the meeting. Post in advance on your website and in your newsletter. Add "Open Forum" or "Speak your piece" – for additional comments and member input. Always have a backup plan for your meeting. Guest speaker is delayed or does not show – discuss neighborhood concerns or have an "Open Mike" session where members can bring up one item that is bothering them.

Give **Guest Speakers** a definite time limit. Use warning cards if necessary. Limit questions, state this is the last question, state speaker will stay after the meeting to answer additional questions and talk to members. Check in advance for any audio-visual or computer needs.

For Candidates or Politicians as Guests or Speakers: absolutely, positively give them a definite time limit. Use warning cards if necessary. Stand up and walk over to the

podium or next to them if hand held microphone. Limit questions and state candidate / politician will stay after the meeting to answer additional questions and talk to members.

Controversial Issues: Remember – "He who controls the microphone, controls the meeting." State rules of conduct before starting. If not followed, you will be asked to leave. Then say – "does everyone agree?" Here are some helpful rules used successfully by others: Have speakers line up by microphone to speak, only one question per speaker, no multiple part questions, no speeches allowed, no shouting, profanity, name calling. Show the same courtesy to others when they speak. Rowdy people will be removed from meeting. Have room monitors to help with crowd control and to seat late attendees. Do not hesitate to interrupt if speaker is not following rules. Just interrupt and say "and your question is ????" or "thank you, you may sit down and now to the next person in line."

Two things usually assure a well-attended meeting: free food or a big controversy. Now most of us cannot continually afford to feed the masses and do not always want to deal with big controversies. Here are some incentives you can offer to get residents to come to your meetings: free giveaways, free entertainment, free babysitting service if at all possible (gets the young crowd) and free rides to and from the meetings

Themed Meetings: Go beyond the usual holidays (New Year's, Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, July 4th, etc.). Add Neighborhood celebrations (Founder's Day), historic celebrations (City celebration) or start your own annual celebration. How about educational activities such as Hurricane Preparedness, Identity Theft or Mortgage Foreclosures. How about Family Friendly Meetings themed around a children's activity, little or no business meeting. Like making Valentine's Day cards, Mother's Day cards, Father's Day cards. How about Pets on Parade – prizes for most unusual, largest, smallest, noisiest pet or put together a special Family Olympics. One final idea is to initiate Civic Activity Meetings such as Paint the Burg activities, Cleanups - Stream, pond, shoreline cleanup, Mangrove trimming, Back to school supplies for families in need, Thanksgiving and holiday baskets for families in need, Holiday presents for children in need or special boxes for our troops stationed overseas.

Remember effective meetings can increase membership, build a sense of community, encourage participation while addressing neighborhood issues. Have a great meeting.

CONA Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report – April Gausman

CONA balance as of March 31, 2013 is \$3,574.34

Audit – Faye Jackson

The Audit Committee is currently completing the review of CONA financials for the year of 2012. Every year, money moves in and out of the bank account. The treasurer oversees all of this activity, but the entire executive board is responsible for the care of the money and must ensure that it is being handled properly. At the end of each quarter an audit is conducted of CONA's financial records. An audit is simply a detailed review of our organization's financial records, and verification of CONA's reported financial activity. An audit verifies the numbers, ensures accuracy, and identifies internal controls that should be implemented to improve the integrity of your financial structure. The yearend audit also provides closure for the previous year and sets a starting point for the New Year's activity. The primary benefit is the confidence it gives the board and members that CONA's financial house is in order.

CONA's Audit Committee members are Faye Jackson (Highland Oaks), Travis Jarman (Bayway Isles), Kai Warren (Historic Roser Park) and Mike Gulley (Coquina Key) who provide their expertise and commitment of time, and have at least one of the following areas or more of experience or background: experience serving on an audit committee, experience as a chief or principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, accountant, auditor, or position that involves performance of similar functions.

Communications Committee – Travis Jarman

The Communications Committee finalized the requirements for our new forum software. After a review of approximately 20 different software packages selected "MyBB" – a contemporary, user-friendly discussion board package that has a number of features that our membership will find useful. These features include the ability to subscribe ONLY to topics that you find of interest and to receive notifications when new information is posted to one of those topics. There will be multiple discussion forums, some public and some for the use of CONA members or Committee members only. The ability to moderate a discussion is also available should a topic require it. Additional features include an online calendar, a robust private messaging facility and the ability to read and comment from mobile devices such as tablets and smart phones. The software is currently in beta testing by your Committee members and we expect to make it available to the membership at large by mid-year.

CONA Leadership – Ingrid Comberg

Our future leaders will discuss "Effective Meetings" with a variety of community leaders. They will focus on getting the most out of their association meetings, reviewing Robert's Rules of Order and getting tips on group procedures. The last meeting will be "Quasi-Judicial Hearings" with City and County officials. Leadership members will learn how the City's Boards and Commissions work. What happens when you appear before one. They will dissect an actual case and make arguments before a panel of speakers and learn how to prepare an effective presentation for a quasi-judicial hearing. The final meeting will be the Graduation Dinner and Ceremony. Congratulations to all our 2013 CONA Leadership graduates.

Court Watch – (Open)

Looking for a Chairperson and Committee members. Please contact Sue Heyen at mimsue@tampabay.rr.com or 727-251-2224.

Codes – Robert Thompson

At our April 6th monthly meeting the Codes Committee discussed possible code enforcement actions against slum lords with multiple properties. The Committee discussed changing municipal ordinances to prevent owners from selling properties if there are liens. The Committee also discussed the process for properties that are blighted to be torn down; changing empty lots to food forests and should we copy the Madeira Beaches chronic nuisance ordinance. Snipe signs also remain an issue.

Codes Committee Chair Robby Thompson and CONA President Kurt Donley met with Gary Bush, City Codes Director on April 15th. Gary Bush stated that each officer is currently carrying 225 active cases. A company has been hired to set up property for foreclosed properties. On Snipe Signs – Snipe signs are being approached by each Codes Officer in each area. The Robo Call machine and software is owned by the City and is monitored by Codes. The first snipe sign violation is \$100 and fines graduate upwards. Is this enough? Mr. Bush does not think it is necessary for a specific officer to be assigned to nothing but snipe signs. Mr. Bush asked that citizens not pick up the snipe signs. They need to remain in place and be reported to codes and then the signs can be set up for Robo Calling. Road side vending was also discussed.

The codes committee meets monthly on the 1st Saturday, at approx. 10:30 AM at Maysters Cafe at 2444 Central Ave. Please join our meeting or e-mail Robby Thompson at rightspin-gle@yahoo.com with your concerns.

Membership – Tom DeMint

The membership committee is looking for volunteers to visit neighborhood association meetings city wide and report back neighborhood issues and promote CONA. If interested, please contact Tom DeMint at TJDI@aol.com or 727-647-4239.

Nominating – Sue Heyen

Attention all Members. We are still in need of Committee members and someone to be our CONA Secretary. Please consider helping out. If interested, please contact Sue Heyen at mimsue@tampabay.rr.com or 727-251-2224.

Pier & Waterfront Parks Special Committee – Will Michaels

"Downtown is everyone's neighborhood".

The Committee continues to monitor the new pier proposal and planning for a waterfront parks master plan. A meeting is planned for late May to again discuss possible guidelines and elements for the waterfront parks master plan. Persons wishing to participate should contact Will Michaels at wmichaelscona@tampabay.rr.com or 727-420-9195.

Public Safety – Lisa Brown

The Public Safety Committee meets the first Saturday of every month at Mayster's Café, 2444 Central Avenue. The meeting time is 10:30 AM. Please come out and join us to voice any of your public safety concerns. On May 11th, 2013, the Public Safety Committee will be hosting the New Jim Crow event at the Southside Democratic club at the Sanderlin Center. Everyone is welcome! For more information, contact Lisa Brown at lisab0725@gmail.com

Energy & Environment – Tim Martin

Land Development & Historic Resources – Judy Landon

No reports at this time.

CONA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

The Sunshine Multi-Service Center - April 17, 2013

Call to Order:

President Kurt Donley opened the meeting at 6:50 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. Kurt thanked all who were attending and then announced that a secretary was still needed.

Sue Heyen agreed to do secretary job for the rest of year. Kurt then apologized for a remark he made about an elected official and explained he did not check his facts before speaking.

Attendance:

30 people attended this meeting.

Committee Updates:

Public Safety – Lisa Brown

Robby Thompson gave the report in Lisa's absence. Chief Harmon stated that they will let the neighborhoods know if and when their CSO will be replaced or transferred and give the name of replacing CSO. A question was asked about how a neighborhood knows who their CSO is. Answer was given that all they have to do is call the police department for that information.

Communications – Travis Jarman

Travis Jarman reported that a new communications avenue may be by internet. The EC is looking at it and Kurt Donley and Tim Martin are going to test it out and will report back.

Codes – Robby Thompson

Robby Thompson met with Gary Bush of the Codes Department to discuss codes and various problem properties. They have agreed to continue to meet and discuss these properties to make sure they are being addressed.

No reports from other committees.

Correction

Fossil Park was left off the attendance sign in sheet and Jerry Woolridge was left off for Fossil Park alternate.

Old Business:

President Kurt Donley announced that he has met with Mayor Bill Foster to discuss the snipe signs and how to use MOB to combat them. Kurt announced that Childs Park and Crescent Lake are new members.

Kurt announced that now we will have a presentation about the "Jim Crow" meetings he has been doing. First we will see a short film and then a slide show from Kurt. This will be followed by a question and answer session.

Question and Answer: The questions were about what the goal was for the presentations and are there other groups doing this also? Kurt stated that the goal is just to continue the discussion of this important subject; he assured the group that this will not become CONA'S primary function and also that we should vote on if the presentations should continue. Several members spoke in favor of hearing more discussions on the "Jim Crow" subject. Councilman Wengay Newton also spoke in favor of having continuing discussions. He also gave an idea of how many juveniles are taken to detention center; also how much it costs to house them. A motion was made and seconded to allow more presentations to facilitate discussions on this subject. The motion was passed by the members.

New Business:

The EC voted to support the League of Women Voters on their Recycling Plans. The motion was made to ratify the vote. There was a point of clarification and they the motion was to ratify was passed by all members.

Councilman Newton spoke about getting two senate bills to a hearing and also about his motion to halt the closing of the Pier in May and keeping it open until August.

Councilman Nurse announced that Council has launched a Rebate/Rehab movement on vacant and foreclosed properties on the south side of city. This led to a general discussion of home renovations, owners and the conditions of some of the homes.

There being no new business the motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Heyen

2013 CONA Membership list

Thank you to all those neighborhood associations who have paid their 2013 dues.
Dues paid as of 4/21/13.

Azalea	Edgemoor	Maximo Moorings Civic
Bahama Shores	Euclid/St. Paul	Meadowlawn
Bartlett Park	Fossil Park	MLK District
Bayway Isles	Garden Manor	Mobel Americana
Broadwater Civic	Greater Pinellas Point (GPPCA)	Northeast Terraces
Child's Park	Harris Park	Old Southeast
Coquina Key	Highland Oaks	Riviera Bay Civic
Crescent Lake	Historic Kenwood	Roser Park
Crescent Heights	Historic Old Northeast (HONNA)	Snell Isle (SIPOA)
Crossroads Area	Historic Uptown	St. Pete Preservation
Disston Heights	Jungle Terrace Civic	Uptown
Downtown Neighborhood Assoc. (DNA)	Lakewood Estates Civic	Westminster Heights
Eagle Crest		Wildwood Heights

To everyone else – this is another gentle reminder to send your \$35 dues in today.
Add \$15 to that check if you want to use the CONA postage permit for bulk mailing.
Application forms and invoices are available at www.conastpete.org



CONA 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President

Kurt Donley - Grand Central
331-7373 - kurtndonley@msn.com

1st Vice President

Tim Martin - Historic Kenwood
251-9979 - ftimothymartin@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President

Rashid Ali Montsho - Westminster Heights
803-795-8630 - rmontsho@tampabay.rr.com

Secretary

Barbara Heck - Snell Isle
894-6020 - barbara@theheckhouse.com

Treasurer

April Gayle Gausman - Historic Uptown
244-1896 - april@realestatebyapril.com

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit

Faye Jackson - Highland Oaks
327-9844 - lfax@msn.com

CONA Leadership

Ingrid Comberg - Disston Heights
894-3048

Court Watch

open

Land Development & Historic Resources

Judy Landon - Harris Park
528-3735 - judylandon55@gmail.com

Membership

Tom DeMint - Edgemoor
647-4239 - TJD1@aol.com

Nominating

Sue Heyen - Historic Kenwood
251-2224 - mimsue@tampabay.rr.com

Public Safety

Lisa Brown - Wildwood
244-9018 - lisab0725@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Mike Gulley - Coquina Key
244-8374 - jmichael.gulley@gmail.com

OTHER CONA COMMITTEES

Codes Committee

Robby Thompson - Westminster Heights
510-5087 - rightspindle@yahoo.com

Communications

Travis Jarman - Bayway Isles
cona.mail@bayway.org

Energy & Environment Committee

Tim Martin - Historic Kenwood
251-9979 - ftimothymartin@yahoo.com

Newsletter Coordinator

Barbara Heck - Snell Isle
894-6020 - barbara@theheckhouse.com

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The Council of Neighborhood
Associations of South Pinellas County
P.O. Box 13693
St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3693

Return Service Requested

Presort Std
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit #1084
St. Petersburg, FL

Your 2013 Resolution – Talk to the Mayor

Does your neighborhood have some issues or concerns or just some suggestions for City Mayor and staff? Go to *Breakfast with the Mayor* or *Mayor's Night Out*. Take advantage of these special events held throughout the year to meet and talk in person to the Mayor. Mark your calendars and then go !!! Additional details can be found on the city website at www.stpete.org

Mayors Night Out at 6 PM is a great opportunity to get extraordinary access to all the decision makers in the City. Speak one-on-one with the Mayor and other public officials and get the services you need from City Hall. If you have a problem that spans departments and you haven't made use of this one-stop-shop, the problem is on you for not trying. Mayor's Night Out starts at 6 PM (Jul 18, Aug 8, Sep 5, Oct 10).

Breakfast with the Mayor is held the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 AM at various restaurants around the City. This popular forum is a great opportunity to talk informally with the Mayor about your concerns, enjoy a yummy breakfast and support our local host restaurants.